

Message Text

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FOR LORD ONLY FROM BARTHOLOMEW

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TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: BUCKLEY COLUMN ON SOLZHENITSYN

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF SEPTEMBER 17, 1976 COLUMN BY WILLIAM F BUCKLEY, JR., TITLED "THE CONTINUING PRESENCE OF ALEXANDER SOLZHENITSYN":

QUOTE

CONCERNING THE TALK ABOUT SOLZHENITSYN -- THE REPUBLICANS INCLUDED IN THEIR PLATFORM A SPECIFIC TRIBUTE TO HIM; THE DEMOCRATS SURREPTITIOUSLY CONTRIVED TO LOSE A PROPOSAL THAT THEY DO THE SAME THING -- A FEW POINTS OUGHT TO BE MADE.

1. HENRY KISSINGER, SHORTLY AFTER GERALD FORD BECAME PRESIDENT, SAT DOWN TO READ A CHAPTER OR TWO FROM GULAG ARCHIPELAGO, HAVING UP UNTIL THEN READ ONLY SOLZHENITSYN'S CANCER WARD. HE FOUND THE BOOK SO ENGROSSING, HE ENDED BY READING IT ALL. HE THEN READ THROUGH IVAN DENISOVICH, AND FIRST CIRCLE. HE THEN TOOK GULAG TO PRESIDENT FORD WITH THE RECOMMENDATION THAT HE READ IT. ONE DOES NOT

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KNOW WHETHER MR. FORD DID SO. IF RICHARD REEVES IS COR-

RECT IN SAYING THAT MR. FORD HAS NOT READ A BOOK ON 10 YEARS, THE ODDS ARE AGAINST IT. STILL, THE IMPULSE OF

MR. KISSINGER IS WHAT WE ARE FOCUSING ON.

HENRY KISSINGER, AFTER EXPERIENCING SOLZHENITSYN, MADE

KNOWN TO A RELEVANT FIGURE THE CONCERN OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR THE PHYSICAL SAFETY OF SOLZHENITSYN WHO AT THAT PERIOD WAS STILL IN MOSCOW. IT IS NOT INCONCEIVABLE THAT THE DECISION OF THE KREMLIN TO EXILE SOLZHENITSYN, RATHER THAN SEND HIM BACK FOR A REFRESHER COURSE ON GULAG, OR ON ONE OF THOSE TERMINAL VISITS TO THE LUBYANKA PRISON, WAS THE RESULT OF KISSINGER'S INCREMENTAL INTERVENTION. NOT INCONCEIVABLE, IN OTHER WORDS, THAT KISSINGER SAVED THE LIFE OF SOLZHENITSYN.

2. WHEN THE QUESTION AROSE WHETHER SOLZHENITSYN SHOULD BE INVITED TO THE WHITE HOUSE, THE ADVICE THAT HE SHOULD NOT BE CAME FROM KISSINGER, WHO NOW SAYS THAT HIS JUDGMENT WAS DEFECTIVE, THOUGH IN FACT IT WASN'T (IT IS THE POLICY OF DETENTE WHICH IS DEFECTIVE). IT SHOULD BE STRESSED THAT A SECRETARY OF STATE PRIMARILY CONCERNED TO ACHIEVE A CERTAIN RELATIONSHIP WITH A FOREIGN POWER QUITE NATURALLY SHRINKS FROM CERTAIN KINDS OF PROVOCATIONS.

YOU CANNOT FETE THE MOST ELOQUENT CRITIC OF THE SOVIET UNION WHILE CARRYING ON DETENTE WITH THE SOVIET UNION. IT IS, SIMPLY, A MATTER OF INCOMPATIBLE POLICIES. WHO SAYS A, TO QUOTE THE CLICHE, MUST SAY B.

IN OTHER WORDS, ONE CANNOT DEDUCE FROM MR. KISSINGER'S REBUFF TO SOLZHENITSYN ANY LACK OF REVERENCE FOR SOLZHENITSYN.

3. WHAT IS DISMAYING IS THE CULTURE IMPREGNATED BY THAT ACT OF MR. KISSINGER. NOW WINSTON LORD, THE YOUNG AND GIFTED ASSISTANT TO MR. KISSINGER, IS DETECTED, AT A

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SEMINAR FOR STATE DEPARTMENT INTERNS, USING THE WORD "FASCIST" LOOSELY AT THE EXPENSE OF SOLZHENITSYN. WHAT MR. LORD SAID CANNOT BE PUT MORE PRECISELY THAN THIS -- BECAUSE HE SAYS HE DID NOT CALL SOLZHENITSNY A FASCIST, AND AS A LONGTIME FRIEND OF MR. LORD I AM PREPARED TO ACCEPT HIS WORD ANY TIME. BUT HE DID NOT DENY USING THE WORD. AND THIS BRINGS US TO THE FINAL POINT THAT OUGHT TO BE MADE HERE.

THE BUREAUCRATIC REFLEX OF WINSTON LORD AT SO YOUNG
AN AGE IS THE RESULT OF A DISEASE AT LEAST AS CONTAGIOUS
AS, SAY, THE SWINE FLU, AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS, BREED-
ING AT ITS MOST VIRULENT MANIFESTATION THE KIND OF
PEOPLE WE FINALLY HAD TO DISPATCH AT NUREMBERG FOR
HYPER-FIDELITY TO THE REGNANT IDEOLOGY. AND, ALAS, NO
ANTITOXIN IS IN SIGHT. ONE CAN ONLY TELL HIM, GENTLY
THAT THOUGH FOREIGN POLICY IS TO A SUBSTANTIAL EXTENT
A VALUE-FREE SCIENCE, IT OUGHT NOT TO CROWD OUT MORAL
REALITY.

TO LINK SOLZHENITSYN TO A MODERN POLITICAL MOVEMENT-
PHILOSOPHY THAT GLORIFIES VIOLENCE AND THE SUB-
ORDINATION OF THE INDIVIDUAL TO THE STATE IS INTELLEC-
TUALLY WRONG-HEADED. AND TO SAY SUCH A THING ABOUT THE
NOBLEST MAN ALIVE IS PHILISTINE.

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